

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

## Meeting on June 2nd

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Alaska Section Bulletin

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#### Officers

<b>President</b>	John Lynn KL0CY
<b>Vice President</b>	Susan Woods NL7NN
<b>Secretary</b>	Lil Marvin NL7DL
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paul Spatzek WL7BF
<b>Trustee</b>	John Wolfe AA0NN
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<b>News Letter Editor</b>	Edythe Lynn KL0EO
<b>Membership Chairman</b>	Fred Erickson KL7VC
<b>Past President</b>	Peter Bailey WL7BW

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John Orella KL7LL  
Harvey Rookus NL7DK  
David Stevens KL7EB

#### One Year Board Members

Corney Eastman KL0FK  
John Murray NL7WW  
Steve Gehring KL7DC  
Fred Erickson KL7VC  
Mike Borer WL7CKB

#### AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

<http://kl7aa.akconnect.com>

president to kl0cy@arrl.net

webmaster to kl7aa@lawson.akconnect.com

membership to frederickson@iname.com

#### News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting

Email: [KL0EO@arrl.net](mailto:KL0EO@arrl.net) Facsimile: 907-338-4791

Mail: 7013 Trafford Ave. Anchorage 99504

#### KL7G CODE PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Schedule: 7:00am, 10:00am, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm  
AK time, every day Frequencies: 3575 kHz, 7075 kHz &  
145.35 MHz: Sending Speed: 7 wpm

#### Nets in Alaska:

The following nets are active in South-central Alaska:

Alaska Sniper's Net 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily

Alaska Bush Net 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily

Alaska Motley Net 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily

Alaska Pacific Emergency Preparedness Net 14.292 MHz  
8:00 AM M-F

QCWA net 146.97/.37 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM local

850 No Name Net 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM

Son of Sideband Net 144.20 USB Mondays 9:00 PM local

Big City Simplex Net 146.520 FM Tuesdays 8:00 PM local

ARES net 147.30/.90 MHz Thursdays at 8:00 PM local

PARKA net 147.30/.90 MHz Thursdays at 9:00 PM local

#### Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Repeaters

KL7AA systems at Flattop Mt., 2,200 ft

146.34/94 MHz, 80 watts, autopatch, 100/141.3 Hz PL

223.34/224.94, 25 watts, no patch, no PL

444.70/449.70, 25 watts, autopatch, 100/141.3 PL

KL7ION at Mt. Gordon Lyon 4,700 ft

147.30/90 MHz - 80 watts, no patch, no PL

KL7AA, Mt. Alyeska, 2,400 ft.

146.16/76 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC club

temporary down 146.97/.37 MHz, autopatch, 103.5 Hz PL

KL7DJE at Grubstake Peak, 4,500 ft.

147.09/.69 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 100 Hz PL

444.925/449.925, 10 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA club

146.85/.25, autopatch, no PL

KL7AIR Elmendorf, EARS

146.67.07, 1072. Hz PL

KL7G West Anchorage & Events

449.65/444.65 MHz, patch, no PL

#### Anchorage & Mat Valley Simplex Frequencies

146.52 Mhz Calling and Emergency frequency

147.57 / 447.57 (crossband linked) HF spotters & chat

146.49 Mhz Anchorage area simplex chat

146.41 MHz Mat Valley simplex chat



~~~ **HOT LINKS** ~~~

Internet Web links, the favorites from our readers

AARC <http://kl7aa.akconnect.com>

SCRC <http://www.home.gci.net/~worchester/scrc.htm>

EARS <http://www.qsl.net/kl7air>

MARA <http://www.obarr.net/mara/>

Moose Horn ARC <http://www.alaksa.net/~kl7fg>

ARES <http://www.qsl.net/alaskaares>

KL7J <http://www.alaska.net/~buchholz>

Fairbanks AARC:

<http://ffdlm1mac.uafsof.alaska.edu/aarc/aarc.html>

Yukon Amateur Radio Association:

<http://www.klondike.com/yara/index.html>

HAARP Project:

<http://server5550.itd.nrl.navy.mil/projects/haarp/>

<<Amateur Radio Reference Library>>

<http://www.area-ham.org/library/libindex.html>

Hamradio: <http://www.hamrad.com/>

Solar Terrestrial Activity <http://209.130.27.95/solar/>

ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/>

Propagation Report Recording 566-1819

*please let us know if there are other club pages or good starting points that should appear here*

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**ABACUS RADIO REPAIR**

Factory authorized service for: Kenwood, ICOM,  
Yaesu, Alinco, Amateur radio equipment.  
Call Jim Wiley, KL7CC (907) 338-0662

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**ALASKA HAM RADIO SUPPLY**

Ken Weldon, AL0R proprietor  
20950 Chickadee Lane in Chugiak, 688-4267

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**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:** All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by computer disk, fax, or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed on the cover. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

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**Regular HAM Gatherings:**

**Tuesdays, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM:** Join the gang for lunch and an eyeball QSO at the Royal Fork South, on Old Seward Highway, about ¾ mile south of Dimond Blvd.

**Saturdays, 7:30 AM:** Here is a great way to get started on the week-end come and meet with some of the locals and have a great breakfast at Phillips Restaurant, at the corner of Arctic and International. Great Fun.

**THIS MONTH'S EVENTS**

**June 2nd: AARC general meeting at 7:00 PM** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.300.

**June 3rd: ARES Planning Committee 09:30 AM to 12:00 PM.** Normally on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month. ARES meeting rescheduled this month due to activities.

**June 5th: EARS general meeting at 7:00 PM** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, in the basement of Denali Hall (building 31-270) on Elmendorf AFB.. Talk in on 147.27 simplex.

**June 6th: VE License Exam 6:30 PM,** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month, Carr-Gottstein Building, APU Campus. Bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

**June 9th: SCRC general meeting at 7:00 PM** the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at Denny's on Debarr & Bragaw. Talk in on 147.57 simplex.

**June 10th: QCWA Annual Pot-Luck Picnic – 11:30 AM** Everyone welcome (Need not be QCWA member) Bring salads, hot dishes, desserts, your own drinks. Meat, buns, paper plates provided. At home of Jimmie and Liz Tvrdy (Avion Rd). Please RSVP to 345-3063. 9-hole GOLF COURSE OPEN! Talk-in on 147.57 simplex.

**June 10th: VE License Exams at 2:00 PM.** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at Hope Cottage 540 W. International in the Board Room. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion.

**June 13th: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Boniface Bingo

**June 17th: Mayor's Marathon** first checkpoints at 7AM all finished by 5PM. Using 147.30/90 repeater. Contact John Lynn [KL0CY@arrl.net](mailto:KL0CY@arrl.net) or 337-1091 to help

**June 17th: PARKA Meeting at 11:00 AM.** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at Peggy's, across from Merrill Field

**June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25th: Field Day .** Will be held at Six Mile Chalet on Elmendorf. Setup on Friday afternoon. Simon NL7VR will be cooking, weather will be beautiful and bands will be open. QCWA month-end meeting (normally at Royal Fork South) will be held instead at Field Day site.

**June 30th: MARA meeting at 7PM** the last Friday of the month at the MTA office in Palmer.



## LOANED AND LOST

Chris Hazlett\KL7FB loaned out his Hako Desoldering Station and King Synthesized Hand Held 2 meter radio about two or three years ago and forgot who he loaned it to. If anyone knows where his prized toys are living these days, please contact him at 745-2919 Palmer.

Thanks - Chris KL7FB

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Calling a few good HAMs to help with the Six Mile Creek Paddlefest on the weekend of July 29 -30 located on the Hope Cutoff. Any one interested in helping please contact John Lynn, KL0CY or Edie Lynn, KL0EO. More info at <http://www.kck.org>

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Also note that any ham wishing to place an item for sale is free to submit the text to the editor of the address on the front page. It will be run one time only at no cost.

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QRP-L CD Version 3, dated May 7, 2000 now Available  
From: Jim Larsen, AL7FS

Well, it's finally here! Version 3 of the QRP-L CDROM, and since version 2, we've had a lot of changes on the list, the startup of QRP-F, a much more active and aggressive QRP ARCI, and a new millennium! This CD contains the entire QRP-L archive for the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as well as a few months of the 21<sup>st</sup>. (1993 through some time in April 2000) Included is the latest version of QSLMaker (create your own QSL cards) Also, a set of background bitmaps. These are especially for ARCI members (QRP ARC International) who want to display the ARCI logo on their card.

There are several links. Included are:

**\*\* QRP-L Archives (1993 to April 2000)**

**\*\* Chuck Adams, K7QO, pictures of QRP rigs (built and in progress) and keys and paddles**

**\*\* Glen Leinweber, VE3DNL, Elmer101 Web Page and much more**

### How to get your own Version 3 copy of the CD:

Also: look at: <http://www.qsl.net/al7fs>

I can supply a blank CD or accept one from you.

#### Plan A: Your blank CD

Put a blank CD in one of those plastic sleeves (i.e. don't send the jewel box). Put this CD in a sturdy cardboard mailer. Put your mailing address on the mailer. Put postage on the mailer.

(Typical postage is 77 cents in the USA, though if you use a bubble mailer or one of those thick padded mailers it might be more.) Now put this mailer into a larger (of course) mailer addressed to me (see below). Write your name AND email address on a small slip of paper and enclose it as well.

#### Plan B: I provide blank CD

Send a check for \$10 USD payable to "Jim Larsen" to me (see below). \$10 USD will cover the QRP-L CD at least from my perspective for International as well as domestic. Please enclose a self-adhesive mailing label with your mailing address. Write your name AND email address on a small slip of paper and enclose it as well. If you don't have a self-adhesive label just put your mailing address neatly on a piece of paper that I can cut out and tape to the package.

Send your package or envelope to:

Jim Larsen, AL7FS  
3445 Spinnaker Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99516-3424

Upon receipt, I will email you to confirm receipt of your package—IF you remembered to enclose your email address

#### Plan C: You use PayPal and I provide blank CD

PayPal Information: I have a PayPal account that I can use to receive payment by MasterCard or Visa. PayPal is available at <http://www.PayPal.com> (If you would like more info about your own PayPal account, you can use this link to get there: <https://secure.paypal.com/refer/pal=al7fs%40pobox.alaska.net>

Feel free to use my email address as the referring party if you set up a new account.

My email address for PayPal is [AL7FS@pobox.alaska.net](mailto:AL7FS@pobox.alaska.net)

If you choose to use this method you need to email me with your information.

General Guidelines:

Email Subject: QRP-L CD order from (your call) via PayPal

Text: Repeat your PayPal email address (for all I know, I get an email via PayPal—I'm new to this, as I said)

Provide your mailing Name and address separated by 2 or 3 lines above and below so I can cut it out and tape to the mailer.

Add any other comments on the bottom of the message as needed.

Questions? Send email to me at [AL7FS@qsl.net](mailto:AL7FS@qsl.net). Please make the subject line:

"\*QRP-L CD Question from (your callsign)".

73, Jim

Jim Larsen, AL7FS <http://www.qsl.net/al7fs/>  
Anchorage, Alaska <mailto:al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>  
QRP ARCI #6754 Check out <http://www.qrparci.org/>



## Section news

From Alaska Section Manager, KL5T

### Alaska Affiliated Club Coordinator Resigns

George Meacock, NL7RD, tendered his resignation as Alaska Section Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC) effective May 15, 2000. George was forced to step down for personal reasons. A hearty thanks goes out to George for his work in his tenure as ACC. As a result, the Section's ACC position is now vacant and a new coordinator is needed. If you, or someone you know might be interested in this important position, please contact KL5T using the information provided below.

### Alaska Morse Wire Net Manager Appointed

Lake E. Trump (Ed), AL7N, of Fairbanks, Alaska has been appointed ARRL Net Manager for Alaska Morse Wire Net effective May 2, 2000. The Alaska Morse Wire net consists of a group of dedicated amateurs keeping the old American Morse code alive by passing formal message traffic over landline circuits. To learn more about the Alaska Morse Wire, drop Ed a line at [l.trump@worldnet.att.net](mailto:l.trump@worldnet.att.net).

Please help me welcome Ed to the ARRL Field Organization. His willingness to serve sets a fine example for others to follow.

### Welcome new hams

Please help me welcome the following section members as new amateur radio operators. I've sent each a letter and an Emergency Communications Guide as developed by Alaska ARES District 7 (Anchorage). The letter encouraged them to become active in the local club or clubs, and to become ARRL members. I hope you will do the same.

Tammy E. McCrorey, KL0XI  
66990 North Fork Rd  
Anchor Point AK 99556

Michael K. LaMagdeleine, KL0XH  
9101 Elim St  
Anchorage AK 99507-3827

David R. Paukstys, KL0XJ  
2601 Garnet Ln  
Wasilla AK 99654

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Many additional section field positions are available and need to be filled. For more information, please contact:

Kent Petty, KL5T  
Alaska Section Manager

e-mail: [kl5t@arrl.org](mailto:kl5t@arrl.org)  
packet: KL5T @ KL7AA.#NAK.AK.USA.NOAM  
Phone: (907) 243-5856  
Address: 2229 Turnagain Parkway, Anchorage AK 99517

## 2K Iditarod Volunteer Communicator's Picnic

On a warm and clear Sunday in early May, the Volunteer Communicators of the 2K Iditarod held their first annual Picnic. We gathered with our families around a potluck meal at the 6-Mile Chalet on Elmendorf AFB and recanted checkpoint tales. The 60+ guests enjoyed door prizes, Checkpoint pictures, a showing of Jim Webber's Iditarod 2000 video and just plain good conversation. While we ate salads, vegetables and flame-broiled burgers we took time to recognized the Volunteer Communicators with Certificates of Appreciation for their work. We also recognize the Sponsorship support from ComTech, PTI net and GCI. Without their donations of time, materials and monetary support our job as Volunteer Communicators would be much more difficult.

Being an Iditarod Communicator means utilizing one of the many technologies at hand to communicate Health & Welfare, Logistic and Dog Traffic back to Anchorage HQ. One of our missions is to pass this traffic in an expedient and accurate way. Mark Kelliher, KL7TQ, maintained the response times for each Checkpoint and will pass those along in a coming issue of the newsletter. The Dog Traffic results were then passed to the WebMaster and placed on the Iditarod homepage for the world to know. Well over a million hits were registered on the Iditarod homepage during the race. In a Beta Test, John Wolfe, AA0NN, sent race results from Nome via the Internet for posting on the WebSite. John's work was a success and we will work to do more of that type of Traffic passing in 2001. Other Volunteer Communicators along the trail provided pictures and commentary for WebSite posting.

Sixty days before the race a Communication Coordinator was yet to be found. With the combined help of Mark KL7TQ, Clyde KL0CW, and John AA0NN, we took on the task to simply "Make it happen". And make it happen we did, but only because of the patience, endurance and the sheer Will to survive of each of our Communicators. Over the next issues, I will invite Communicators to share their pictures and stories with us. Nothing expresses the Checkpoint challenges better than the words of the beholder. If you would like to share your story and pictures, please contact me at [clj@alaska.net](mailto:clj@alaska.net) and I will help you put it together with pictures.

Looking forward to 2001, the Iditarod Odyssey will continue with Mark, John and I serving as the Volunteer Communications Coordinators for the race. Richard Plack, KL0DY, will work as the Jr. Iditarod Volunteer Coordinator. Over the next months, the Iditarod and its sponsors will look into the technologies to be utilized during the 2001 race. The emphasis will be on cost effective communications that are reliable and are easily transported/maintained in the field. At the end of this summer, we will start looking for 2001 Volunteer Communicators for all positions. Watch the newsletter for the date to submit your Volunteer request. We encourage you to volunteer for different Checkpoints, to pass your perspective to us so we may learn from it, to work with us to develop each Checkpoint into a 24-hr/day traffic-passing



dynamo while maintaining a core of seasoned Communicators to support the effort.

o you have the first installment of the 2K Iftarod, stay tuned for real-life Checkpoint adventures. Thanks to all our Volunteer Communicators and their families that supported them through this adventure we call Iftarod...

73's

KL0CW Clyde

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The following items are from "The ARRL Letter", published by ARRL.

#### **IARU TO REPRESENT AMATEURS AT WRC-2000**

Amateur Radio will be well represented when World Radio communication Conference 2000 opens this month in Istanbul. The International Amateur Radio Union has prepared its delegation to deal with conference issues that might affect Amateur Radio. At its meeting in Tours, France, April 18-19, the IARU Administrative Council gave final review and approval of its instructions to the IARU WRC-2000 delegation. The Istanbul conference, held under the auspices of the International Telecommunication Union, runs from May 8 until June 2. The veteran delegation consists of IARU President Larry Price, W4RA, IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, and IARU Region 1 Executive Committee member Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM. Other amateurs will attend WRC-2000 in a variety of capacities, including several named specifically to represent the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services on their national delegations.

The issues facing the WRC-2000 conferees are wide-ranging. The conference is likely to be best remembered for how well it deals with allocations for IMT-2000, the next generation of mobile telecommunications systems. The 2300-2400 MHz band is on the list of possible candidate bands for IMT-2000.

During preparations for WRC-97, the specter was raised of a wholesale spectrum grab for amateur VHF and UHF bands by so-called "Little LEOs." While the Little LEOs have not gone away, no proposals targeting amateur bands have yet surfaced this time around. Little LEO advocates are looking elsewhere between 400 and 470 MHz, but they face strong opposition and there is no guarantee that their gaze will not again settle on one or more ham bands. European Galileo radionavigation satellite interests may seek an allocation at 1260 to 1300 MHz. The IARU delegation will seek to avoid new constraints on amateur access to the 1240-1300 MHz band.

At WRC-2000, the IARU delegation will try to ensure that new spurious emission standards for space stations are not imposed in a way that would make the cost of amateur satellites prohibitive.

Allocations for the Super High Frequencies will come under scrutiny—and probable changes—at WRC-2000. These include a rearrangement of bands in the 71 to 275 GHz block as well as future allocations for spectrum at 275 to 1000 GHz.

The IARU also will support efforts to reduce so-called "country footnotes" that provide domestic allocations to amateurs inferior to those provided in the international Table of Frequency Allocations.

Delegates to WRC-2000 likely will decide which critical topics will wind up on the agenda for WRC-2003. Possibilities include broadcasting allocations in the 4 to 10 MHz range; so-called "harmonized" allocations for amateurs and broadcasting at 7 MHz; Article S25 of the International Radio Regulations, which deals with the regulations that apply specifically to the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Service, including the requirement for Morse ability to operate below 30 MHz; and synthetic aperture radar—or SAR—operation in the Earth Exploration Satellite Service in the 70-cm band. Studies have shown SARs as a potential interference threat to Amateur Radio. At WRC-2000, SAR proponents will try to have the issue placed on the agenda for WRC-2003 in an effort to obtain an allocation. If conference activities permit, Sumner plans to leave Istanbul just long enough to attend the ARRL National Convention at the Dayton Hamvention.

#### **PRESIDENT HAYNIE PROPOSES "THE BIG PROJECT"**

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, thinks Amateur Radio is on a roll right now, and he wants to harness some of that momentum to keep the hobby on the crest of the wave in years to come. Enter "The Big Project." The Big Project—as it's being called for now—is a corporate-education partnership that Haynie views as nothing less than a bold investment in the future of Amateur Radio. "Our school initiative would put Amateur Radio in the middle schools," Haynie explained today during a visit to ARRL HQ. "We're in the process of developing the framework for this at the moment."

The project, now in its early stages and under the guidance of ARRL Vice President Kay Craigie, WT3P, initially would attempt to raise \$1 million in corporate and foundation contributions. The idea would be to not only develop a turnkey Amateur Radio curriculum but to provide equipment to bring it to life in the classroom.

The ARRL Board of Directors will hear a progress report on The Big Project when it next reconvenes for its July meeting.

Haynie said the League does not want to reinvent the wheel. The Big Project hopes to borrow from the best of what's already in place in terms of programs that integrate Amateur Radio into the curriculum. As he sees it, Amateur Radio could play a role in helping to enhance knowledge of geography, math, electricity and electronics, and physics.

"We've consulted with a lot of teachers throughout the United States to help us with the curriculum," he said. The initial pilot project could involve from 300 to 600 middle schools across the US. "It's time to do some bold things," Haynie declared.



Haynie does not expect The Big Project to immediately generate huge numbers of new licensees. He likened the concept to contributing to a retirement plan. "This is long-term," he said. "This is not instant gratification. This is an investment in the future of Amateur Radio."

During his visit to HQ, Haynie said he thinks license restructuring has brightened the overall mood of the Amateur Radio community. "What I see in my travels throughout the country is a resurgence—a revival if you will—of excitement in Amateur Radio, and this is good," he said. "This is something we've needed for a long time." As Haynie sees it, bringing The Big Project to fruition will continue to fuel the optimism that pervades the hobby. He says the League would be derelict if it did not take advantage of the opportunities The Big Project presents. "Amateur Radio is on a roll right now," he said. "We want to stay on this roll of success."

### **GPS SELECTIVE AVAILABILITY IS HISTORY**

As of the first of the month, your GPS receiver became a whole lot more accurate. President Clinton ordered GPS selective availability terminated as of midnight on May 1.

Eric Lemmon, WB6FLY, called the action "a huge benefit to hams who are into APRS, because the SA error will no longer hamper its accuracy." Selective Availability was an error introduced for national security purposes. It prevented GPS from being as accurate as it could have been for civilian users. With SA turned off, accuracy is expected to be as much as 10 times better. Harry Pyle, AB7TB, charted the error at the changeover. His data show the GPS error—typically in the 100 to 200 foot range—dramatically dropping to something on the order of from 10 to 20 feet when SA was turned off.

Chuck Heron, KD7BWG, suggests one area of caution. "Most topographic maps used in the United States are in NAD27 CONUS datum. Some of the newer mapping programs available for APRS and computer usage are in WGS 84 datum," he points out. Before attempting to use GPS for some coordinated activity, such as during a disaster response, Heron recommends putting all GPS units on the same map datum (this is typically done via a navigation setup screen on the GPS unit). This will put all users on the same page, so to speak, when using GPS coordinates in conjunction with hard-copy or CD-ROM maps.

More information on the elimination of SA is at: <http://www.igeb.gov>

[Editor's Note: all maps for Alaska use NAD 27. To make your GPS match the paper map, you must change the datum in the GPS to NAD 27]

### **LEAGUE CONTINUES OPPOSITION TO EXPERIMENTAL VIDEO PLAN**

The ARRL is continuing its opposition to attempts by Los Angeles County, California, to obtain an experimental license permitting airborne microwave TV downlinks (TVDL) in the 2402-2448 MHz range. Amateurs have a primary domestic allocation at 2402-2417 MHz. In a filing with the FCC, the

ARRL again asked the Commission to deny the County's application.

The LA County proposal, filed last August 9, seeks FCC authorization to develop a TVDL system for public safety purposes using four 10-MHz channels at 2.4 GHz to transmit video images from helicopter-borne cameras for use by public safety agencies. The ARRL has called the application a "foot in the door" toward gaining a permanent berth in the 2.4 GHz band. The League also has filed a Petition for Reconsideration of the granting of a similar experimental application filed by the City of Los Angeles.

In a Reply to Opposition to Informal Objection filed in late April, the ARRL reiterated that Los Angeles County has failed to justify its experimental authorization request. The League said the County has not provided any assurance that the TVDL system would not cause harmful interference to amateur users. The ARRL also contends that it would be impractical, if not impossible, to use frequency coordination, frequency agility, directional antennas and other technology—as the County has suggested—to cooperatively share amateur spectrum and still prevent unintentional interference.

The LA County proposal characterizes the 2402-2448 MHz band as "underutilized" and asserts that current occupants, including Amateur Radio and ISM, would not suffer harmful interference. The League called the LA County monitoring studies "fatally flawed" and said they don't reflect current band occupancy. Citing ATV repeaters and video links as well as the impending Phase 3D amateur satellite operation, the League said the 2.4 GHz band enjoys significant use by the LA area Amateur Radio community.

The League's Reply points out that TVDL operation already is permitted in the public safety frequency pool at 2450 to 2483.5 MHz. LA County is licensed for video operations on a single 2.4 GHz channel but says it encounters conflicts with broadcasters.

### **KV4FZ FILES ELEVENTH-HOUR APPEAL TO KEEP LICENSE**

Herb Schoenbohm, KV4FZ, has petitioned the US Court of Appeals for a rehearing in a last-ditch effort to retain his Amateur Radio license. Schoenbohm claims that he's being singled out for especially harsh treatment, and that the Court did not have the advantage of all the facts.

Now acting as his own attorney, Schoenbohm filed a Petition for Rehearing and Rehearing En Banc with the US Court of Appeals on April 12. A copy of his petition also was sent to the FCC. "The FCC is not required to respond unless the Court rehears the matter, which is doubtful in most cases," Schoenbohm told the ARRL.

In February, the Appeals Court turned down Schoenbohm's appeal of the FCC's decision to not renew his Amateur Radio license. The FCC in 1994 refused to renew Schoenbohm's ticket citing his 1992 felony fraud conviction and character issues. Subsequently, the FCC said that Schoenbohm had



improperly solicited ex parte contacts with the FCC on his behalf.

Schoenbohm exhausted his FCC administrative appeals in 1998, when the FCC reaffirmed the denial of his renewal application. He then turned to the Appeals Court, which agreed with the FCC. Schoenbohm said he was "deeply hurt" by the FCC's characterization of him as lacking the character needed to hold a ham ticket. KV4FZ no longer appears in the FCC database. Schoenbohm has been permitted to continue operating until all appeals have been exhausted.

#### **2000 ARRL ATLANTIC DIVISION AWARD WINNERS**

ARRL's Atlantic Division has named the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, as its 2000 Amateur of the Year. An ARRL member, Hollingsworth—who lives in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania—serves as Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement. Since September 1998, he has been in charge of the FCC's amateur enforcement. "Almost every ham who wanted the amateur bands cleaned up has heard of him," said the Atlantic Division announcement, "and some of those who didn't clean up their act on the air have also heard of—and quite possibly from—Riley."

The Atlantic Division credited Hollingsworth with encouraging compliance with Part 97. "As a fellow Amateur Radio operator, Riley shares a passion for wanting our hobby to grow and for it to last for future generations," the announcement said.

The Atlantic Division's "Grand Ole Ham" lifetime service award for 2000 goes to Bill Thompson, W2MTA. An ARRL Life Member, Thompson recently retired as Western New York Section Manager after 20 years of service. He's also been actively involved in the leadership of the National Traffic System.

The Atlantic Division's 2000 Technical Achievement Award goes to Frank Bauer KA3HDO. An electronics engineer, League and AMSAT member and active ham, Bauer, has been heavily involved in space-related Amateur Radio activities, including Phase 3D and the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station—or ARISS—project.

The 2000 awards will be presented in during the Atlantic Division Convention, held in conjunction with the Rochester, New York, Hamfest June 2-4.

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The following items are from WorldRadio magazine:

#### **Another Ham warned about "free-band"**

Yet another North Carolina amateur has been warned by the FCC to stay off Freeband. This as the government tells Thomas F. Reynolds, Senior, N4TFR, of Salisbury that it has evidence that he has been using Amateur transmitting equipment on the Citizens Band and other frequencies including FM and Lower Sideband on 27.320 MHz and 27.375 MHz. The March 14th FCC letter also charges that Reynolds has been offering for sale, over the air on those

frequencies, transmitting equipment not meeting the Commission's certification standards.

The FCC says that the use of such equipment and excessive power levels jeopardizes Reynolds Amateur License. The FCC also says that this operation constitutes unlicensed radio operation under Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934 and could subject Reynolds to criminal prosecution and seizure of his transmitting equipment. Reynolds was given 20 days to respond to the FCC charges.

#### **FCC fines Washington firm for illegal amplifier sales**

The FCC has affirmed a \$7,000.00 fine on Cellular Systems Northwest Inc. Of Enumclaw, Washington, for willful and repeated violations of the Communications Act and FCC rules relating to the sale of transmitting equipment. In a Memorandum Opinion and Order March 16th, the FCC said Northwest, a consumer electronics dealer, on two occasions in 1997 and 1998 sold and offered to sell "external radio frequency power amplifiers (commonly known as 'linear amplifiers') to two different FCC agents posing as a member of the general public. The FCC said the amplifiers were capable of operating in the 27-MHz Citizens Band. A Notice of Apparent Liability was issued in June 1998. Northwest sought recession of the \$7,000.00 forfeiture saying it never intended to offer or recommend the linears for CB use, its violation was unintentional, that it had ceased selling the illegal equipment and that its "small retailer" attempting to make ends meet. The FCC was unmoved and upheld the \$7,000.00 fine. The company was given 30 days to pay.

#### **Which bands will we lose? Vic Black, AB6SO**

From time to time we hear threats of the imminent loss of one or more amateur bands. Sometimes the threats arise because of band incursions by pirates and unlicensed users. Usually, we're told that commercial interests are lusting after our bands or that somehow we don't deserve particular bands because of abuse, under use or a total lack of use. Which bands are most likely to be re-allocated to other users? Will it be the lesser-used WARC bands (30, 17 or 12 Meters)? Does anyone want 160 Meters? How about 2 Meters, 220MHz or 440 MHz? The 900 MHz band, a shared Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) band, is heavily used by Part 15 commercial interests. Lots of companies would love to get our microwave bands to use for wireless communications, local area computer networks, vehicle locators, vehicular traffic control, burglar alarm systems and other uses.

We are truly fortunate to have a wide range of frequency bands available for use. In fact, US amateurs have operating privileges using more modes, propagation types and frequency bands than anyone but the military. Because of this, we tend not to overpopulate any one band or mode at a given time



(although it may not seem that way on a major contest weekend or during a major DXpedition).

Our operating modes include, but are not limited to, AM, FM, SSB, CW, modulated CW (MCW), many data modes, various image modes and spread spectrum. Some techniques depend heavily on operator skills while others rely on high tech computer aids. Others are basically appliance operator modes similar to using a telephone.

When the FCC stopped issuing station licenses and began to issue only operator licenses they recognized the changing nature of Amateur Radio in a mobile society. We now use radios at base stations, remote bases and repeaters, from boats and airplanes, while mobile, in the field as portable stations or even while walking or riding a bicycle. New software allows combining Amateur Radio with the Internet for controlling remote bases and distant repeaters. More and more operators are using all-digital radios as remote base stations controlled over telephone lines in order to circumvent antenna restrictions at home.

Propagation types range from Near Vertical Incident Skywave (NVIS) to Earth-Moon-Earth (EME), or "moon bounce". In between we use groundwave, HF skywave, Sporadic-E, Trans-Equatorial Propagation, Tropospheric Ducting, Field Aligned Irregularities, Aurora Backscatter and Meteor Scatter. Modulated laser beams have been bounced off the bottoms of clouds.

Some modes, propagation types and frequency bands are inter-dependent. EME works best at frequencies from 1 to 10 GHz because the background noise level is low there and it's relatively easy to build very high gain antennas, RF power amplifiers and low noise receiving amplifiers for that frequency range. Groundwave works better on the longer wavelength bands such as 160 and 80 Meters. Skywave refraction from the ionospheric F layer shines in the high frequency range from about 7 to 30 MHz. The more exotic propagation modes are in their glory on the VHF, UHF, and SHF bands from about 50 MHz to 1.2 GHz. Some modes such as high speed packet or high speed meteor scatter CW require very large bandwidths which are readily available on the microwave bands (some of those bands are several GHz wide). VHF and UHF bands are particularly well suited for satellite communications. Even so, we are constantly trying new modes on old bands and old modes on new bands. Will the first amateur Trans-Atlantic 2-meter QSO be by PSK-31?

To determine which bands we are most likely to lose, we need to go back to our very roots and see why the FCC puts up with our hobby in the first place. We are charged with the responsibility of fostering international goodwill, providing emergency communications backup and furthering technology through experimentation. We do all of these things very well. By nature, amateurs are gregarious and love talking to strangers half way around the world. Because of redundancy

(each operator can be totally independent of the infrastructure), we are particularly well suited for providing emergency backup communications. A lot of work done by amateurs is done on a very high level of professionalism. We are amateurs only in the sense that we aren't paid for our activities.

We really shine when it comes to innovative thinking and expanding our technical boundaries at the least expense through the application of creative imagination. Many Amateur Radio experiments would be impossible for profit-centered commercial interests to pursue. On any given weekend, we can field thousands of stations around the world to study propagation, for example (although we call it by other names such as DXing and Contesting). We don't wait years to publish our results in some obscure journals, either. Word gets around the world in minutes when something unusual happens. Since many amateurs work for high-tech companies, many of the things we learn by applying our hobby are later perfected and taken to market by commercial interests.

Unfortunately, these same commercial interests would like to share, or even have exclusive use of, our amateur bands. History has shown that when bands are shared, interference problems arise. We, as Amateur Radio operators, may not have the political, and especially economic, clout to fight that battle. However, as more and more poorly designed consumer products enter the marketplace the potential for interference from one product to another will develop until that system may collapse under its own weight without any help from amateurs. Who are you going to blame when the interference to your high priced consumer is coming from similar, competing systems used by your neighbors or your own family members?

Price pays a part in the picture as well. Hype over High Definition TV (HDTV) is waning as manufacturers learn that the buying public may not be willing to pay the price simply for the sake of new technology. New technology alone is not a guarantee of success in the marketplace.

The important thing to keep in mind is that the FCC has never said we would lose bands because of under utilization. The reason we might be in trouble is because we aren't furthering the art through innovative experimentation. Many innovations arise from efforts to reduce complexity and cost (we tend to excel in this aspect of the hobby). And if a new mode isn't currently legal, we're expected to petition for rule changes. The most recent example is the relaxation of rules governing spread spectrum use. Another is the move toward legalizing a new band at 136 kHz or 160-170 kHz in order to study Very Low Frequency (VLF) propagation and techniques. Low noise microwave techniques are being tried there with good results. There's also an international effort to make the currently shared 40-Meter band an amateur-only band. With the worldwide move away from HF navigation aids and commercial ship-to-shore CQ with subsequent spectrum



availability, there's interest in a possible new HF Amateur Radio band around 5 MHz.

Even with all the experimenting going on, most talk about future technology is simply a snail slow evolutionary application of present technology. The time is ripe for some Jules Verne type visionaries to start the creative juices flowing. All things considered, it seems we're unlikely to lose any bands. The loss of any one band would mean less chance for experimentation using modes and techniques that are peculiar to that particular band. If anything, we are more likely to be assigned new bands to encourage even more experimentation. The old adage "use 'em or lose 'em" still applies. But it doesn't mean just idle chatter on the local repeater. It means to think creatively and to use the bands we currently have access to by applying our special knowledge and skills to further the art and science of Amateur Radio communications. Only then can we be assured of maintaining use of our current band allocations.

#### **FCC says ULS registration can protect license record**

Registering now on the FCC's Universal Licensing System can benefit amateurs, even if they have no plans to file an application anytime soon. FCC staffer Steve Linn, N4CAK, says that ULS registration "protects your call sign within the system" and could prevent it from inadvertently being deleted or reissued due to a filing error.

Linn also pointed out that amateurs filing for a change of address should file an "administrative update" (AU) and not request a "modification." The ULS will not renew an amateur's license unless it is within the 90-day window of expiration or within the two-year grace period after expiration. The same applies for those upgrading under restructuring. Linn said the FCC continues to work out the bugs in the ULS. He said that support for the Mac platform and other browsers, such as Internet Explorer, should be available soon.

The FCC in late April opened the ULS to Web filing. Linn advised filers to use the on-line system whenever possible, since it helps users to avoid errors that will not get trapped when filing on paper and could lead to delays or errors in your FCC record. Visit <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls> for more information or to access the ULS.

#### **DAYTON 2000: PUBLIC SERVICE ROLE, LEADERSHIP CITED**

Speaking at the ARRL "Public Service Wants You!" forum at Dayton Hamvention, ARRL Vice President Kay Craigie, WT3P, challenged Amateur Radio's public service leaders to "be the kind of leaders whom we would want to follow." Craigie also told those attending that amateurs who participate in public service are "helping to earn the frequencies we have the privilege of using."

Craigie said that while hams have a responsibility under Part 97 to get involved in public service, personal time often is in short supply these days. "Often both parents in a family are working very long hours," she said. "That impacts how much time you have to do anything outside of work including Amateur Radio." Because of this, she said, public service leaders need to rethink their recruiting methods.

Fellowship is "a powerful motivation" to get involved in public service, Craigie said. Beyond that, she said, public service can be interesting, exciting, and challenging. "It's a challenge and a feeling of satisfaction, and you know that something you've done made a difference in the survival of your community," she said. "It feels good to help other people." And, she pointed out, it's good public relations for Amateur Radio.

Craigie advised a positive attitude and recommended patience with beginners who volunteer. "We weren't born knowing all this stuff," she said. "Somebody had to teach us. We had to be willing to learn." Among other things, she said, public service leaders have to spell out duties and their expectations.

ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, cited the potential for involving younger amateurs in public service activity. One suggestion she offered was to get youth organizations—such as Scout groups and their leaders—involved.

White shared the observations of Kansas Section Manager Orlan Cook, W0OYH, who noted that restructuring has generated a bonanza of new HF operators. "With restructuring, we have many, many new HF operators, and we need to welcome them into our nets and into our ARES groups," Cook said in remarks read at the forum by White. "Go after the new HFers, become their Elmers, and make them more skilled communicators—share your vision."

Wisconsin Section Manager Don Michalski, W9IXG, agreed. "Get the new hams that are coming out of the chute prepared for public service," he said. Michalski cited SKYWARN as a worthy public service activity that has mutual benefits. SKYWARN offers "a reason to have to use the radio—besides having a good time," he said. "They're actually providing a service."

All agreed that recognition in terms of certificates or even such things as coffee mugs and T-shirts were motivators to participate. Michalski said hams need to know they are "needed, wanted, and appreciated" for taking part in public service.

Former Western New York Section Manager and National Traffic System veteran Bill Thompson, W2MTA, told the forum that the NTS is "a great place for training for message-handling activities."



